

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [26] with the following amended paragraph:

[26] This embodiment of the invention can be illustrated further in Fig. 5. In Fig. 5 a system 500 is shown having a first computer 504 which stores data content for downloading to peer computers. A second computer 508 and third computer 512 as well as additional computers, including fourth computer 516, are connected to an intermediate computer 520 which is shown connected to a network, such as the Internet 510. In addition, a caching computer 509 is also coupled to the network. The intermediate computer can serve as a router (???) which routes traffic intended for a public network, such as the Internet, to the network for coupling with other computers connected to the network. Thus, an internal network of computers as can be illustrated by computers 508, 512 and 516 can be connected to a public network. The intermediate computer 520 thus sees requests for files transmitted through it as an intermediary. Consequently, when a peer-to-peer relationship is established between the first computer 504 and the third computer 512 requesting a file which has been stored to the caching computer 509, the intermediate computer 520 can respond to the third computer so as to direct it in obtaining the requested file from the caching computer. In this way, the resources of the first computer are saved and the requested file can successfully be downloaded to the requesting computer 512. In some instances, the intermediate computer can also serve as the caching computer. In a university setting, for example, this would significantly reduce traffic on the university's Internet connections.